

CALIFORNIA’S ACCESS TO VISITATION GRANT
PROGRAM FOR ENHANCING RESPONSIBILITY
AND OPPORTUNITY FOR
NONRESIDENTIAL PARENTS

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
and GRANT APPLICATION**

Addendum No. 1

*Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity
Reconciliation Act of 1996*

(Pub. L. 104-193)

*Title III, Subtitle I, Section 469B
of the Social Security Act*

RFP CFCC—Fiscal Year 2010–2011



ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
OF THE COURTS

CENTER FOR FAMILIES, CHILDREN
& THE COURTS

1.9 Eligible Grant Recipient of Services

The recipients of the proposed services should be low-income separated, separating, divorced, or unmarried parents and their children who are involved in custody and visitation proceedings under the Family Code. Grant funds can only be used to serve noncustodial parents (i.e., noncustodial fathers and/or noncustodial mothers).¹

Additionally, funds for this grant may not be used to provide services in dependency cases or as part of any dependency proceedings, or for Tribes or Tribal Courts, or to provide off-site **or in-home** supervised visitation services.

4.0 EVALUATION AND SELECTION PROCESS

4.1 Review Process

The grant funds will be awarded with the intent to approve as many requests as possible while assuring that each proposal would provide beneficial services and satisfy the overall goals of the program.² Special consideration will be given to proposals that coordinate supervised visitation and exchange services, parent education, and group counseling with existing court-based (and community) program and services.³

4.2 Selection Process and Criteria

To ensure a fair and unbiased selection process, the council's Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee approved the establishment of a Selection Review Committee (SRC). The SRC will evaluate and score the proposals; generate an average score, rank, and recommendation for each proposal; and submit its funding recommendations to the Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee for review and approval. The recommendations from the Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee will then be presented to the Judicial Council's Executive and Planning Committee. The Executive and Planning Committee will review the recommendations and propose final funding recommendations to the Judicial Council.

The Judicial Council makes the final decision regarding the amounts and numbers of grant awards.

Applicants will be scored on a scale of 0–160 points. Proposals will be evaluated and scored on the basis of the following criteria:

1. Grant application program summary (15 points)
2. Proposal narrative (*total of 140 points*)
 - Program service delivery (65 points)

¹ Supervised visitation and exchange services are for noncustodial parents (not custodial parents, grandparents, distant relatives, etc.). According to the federal goal of the grant program, the Child Access and Visitation Grant Program is intended to increase opportunities for *biological parents who are not living in the same household as their children* to become involved in their children lives. The child being in the temporary custody of the grandparent does not mean that the grandparent is the parent—they are seen as temporary custodians. The child still has noncustodial (NCP) parents and the grant is intended to provide services for the NCP and not the grandparent.

² Fam. Code, § 3204(b)(2).

³ Fam. Code, § 3204(b)(3).

- Program implementation (40 points)
 - Sustainability planning (15 points)
 - Cultural competency (10 points)
 - Budget (10 points)
3. Possible bonus points (5 points)

BONUS POINTS: An applicant will be eligible to receive an additional 5 points if it is a multicourt collaboration or multiagency collaboration.

- Multicourt collaboration is a lead applicant court in collaboration with multiple county courts.
- Multiagency collaboration is a single applicant court in collaboration with several (at least two or more agencies) local service providers as the court's subcontractors for the Access to Visitation Grant Program.

DEDUCTION OF POINTS: An application will receive a **deduction of 10 points** if the application is late. An application will also receive a **deduction of 10 points** if the application is deemed incomplete (i.e., proposals that have missing required materials, proposals submitted outside of the required process, materials are not in the correct order or sequence, proposals contain information not requested, or proposal materials submitted by fax or e-mail).

The SRC will score each proposal based on its overall quality and its responsiveness to each question. The **committee will also consider** the following values and principles in scoring each proposal: evidence of strong court and community support and collaboration; innovative service delivery; efficiency of use of funds (that is, funds are being spent on direct services versus administrative costs); and overall cost-effectiveness.

While no points will be awarded for these factors, grant funding decisions will seek to ensure:

- Diversity of geography, population, and court size; and
- Selection of applicants' with a history of sound fiscal management and program administration.